

Dear Senator Needleman, Representative Arconti, and members of the Energy and Technology Committee:

Please advance a Green New Deal for Connecticut by supporting Proposed Bill HB 5002.

Connecticut is at a crossroads, and has an opportunity to shape a healthier, more equitable, and more vibrant future for its people.

I urge the Committee to draft and support Green New Deal legislation that will include the following:

- Restoring rate payer funds designed for energy efficiency and renewable energy;
- Regaining the confidence of small businesses and saving money for working families by restoring the Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy funds and protecting ratepayer funds from future budget raids;
- Restoring electric rate equality (net metering) harmed by 2018 legislation in CT;
- Retiring polluting power plants like Millstone Nuclear Power Station & Bridgeport Harbor Station (Combined Cycle);
- Banning gas infrastructure development and fracked gas waste;
- Requiring government buildings to be powered by clean renewable energy such as solar, wind or geothermal;
- Requiring all new construction in CT to incorporate clean renewable energy;
- Expanding and electrifying mass transit systems to serve the most people and eliminate emissions;
- Expanding the renewable portfolio standard to 100% by 2030 or sooner;
- Rapidly increasing use of solar and offshore wind and ensuring clean energy's benefits are accessible for low and middle income families;
- Upgrading coastal infrastructure to prepare for storms and sea level rise, including use of marshes, dunes, and rain gardens to prevent flooding and buffer waves (resiliency);
- Making it easier for residents and businesses to adopt zero-emission vehicles, and investing in Connecticut's bus and rail systems;

- Generating high-quality employment for tens of thousands of Connecticut residents through a clean renewable energy jobs training program, infrastructure investments, and community workforce agreements to hire from disadvantaged communities.

Thanks you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ms. Diane Lentakis
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